(c) if not, by when the report will be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) The Committee could not make any recommendation due to the sudden demise of Shri J. G. Kumaramangalam, Chairman of the Committee.

Setting up of Captive Power Plants

1425. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to encourage industry to set up captive power plants; and

(b) what has been the response to such initiatives of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) Permission to instal captive power plants is accorded where the requirement of power is substantial and continuous and reliable power supply is necessary. The State Electricity Boards are empowered to accord such permission if the capacity is upto 25 MW, consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary in cases where the proposed capacity is more than 25 MW.

Captive power plants have been set up by units in the public sector as well as the private setcor.

Philatelists Counters

1426. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to help amateur philatelists to procure new stamps/First Day Cover without delay;

(b) whether there is any proposal to open philatelic counters in Universities and Colleges; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Circulars are issued for the release of Commemorative/Special postal stamps, First Day Covers, Information Sheets etc. which are displaced at all philatelic Bureaux/Counters throughout the country. Special Commemorative Stamps, First Day Covers and Information Sheets are sold at Philatelic Bureaux/Counters and other authorised offices. There is also a shceme of deposit account, for regular collectors.

(b) and (c) Philatelic Bureaux/Counters are opened at different places depending upon the necessity and sale of Philatelic material at those places. Universities/Colleges where philatelic counters are at present functioning are Delhi University, Kurukshetra University and Aligarh University Medical College.

Prices of Polymixin-B Sulphate range Formulations

1427. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the imports of Polymixin B Sulphate, Flucionolone Acetonide, Triamcinolone, Lynoestrenol and Hydroprogesterone Caproate durng the last three years year-wise in quantity and value;

(b) when were the prices fixed for Neospirin range of formulations, Benadryl and Flucort range of formulations under DPCO, 1979 alongwith price of each formulation;

(c) whether it is a fact that all the above drugs are being imported and are having huge turn over;

(d) whether it is also a fact that all these drugs are exempted from price control;

(e) what are the basis of exemption and how such an action will help to boost indigenous production and availability at reasonable prices;

(f) whether any company has been licensed to produce these drugs; and

(g) if so, what are the names of these companies alongwith the licensed capacity and stage of manufacture of the drugs?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The required details to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

(d) and (e) The above drugs were exempted from price control on the basis of recommendations of the Kelkar Committee.

(f) and (g) Details of licences issued from time to time are published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their Monthly News Letter. Copies of the publications are available in the Parliament Library.

Verification of Purchase invoices of Bulk Drugs

1428. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3599 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) what is the function of leader prices of Category II formulations particularly when such prices are not applicable to the small scale sector units;

(b) what are the reason for non-verification of purchase invoices of bulk drugs while fixing the prices of formulations and why this procedure has not been adopted;

(c) whether it is a fact that non-verification of purchase invoices gives unintended benefit to formulaters and deprive the consumer from the availability of medicines at reasonable prices;

(d) the names of the bulk drugs based on which prices of formulations were fixed under DPCO, 1987 without the verification of purchase invoices;

(e) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is reviewing the situation and is refixing the prices of finished medicines based on purchase invoices; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 provides for fixation of ceinling prices and not leader prices.

(b) to (f) The prices of bulk drugs keep fluctuating in the open market. The Sub Committee is, therefore, guided by notified prices/weighted average prices of the concerned bulk drugs for considering in the determination of prices of formulations. However, purchase invoices are also verified wherever found necessary.

Import of Rifampicin

1429. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3723 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instances of import of intermediate by producers of Reifampicin without approval of phased manufacturing programme or in contravention of phased manufacturing programme has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that instances of import of Rifampicin in